

SOMALIA

1-31 January 2020

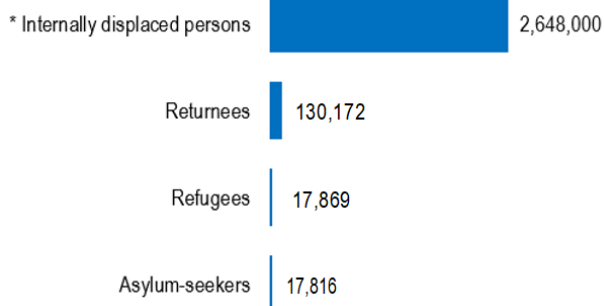
Around 5.2 million persons, including 1.7 million IDPs, will require at least one form of humanitarian assistance in 2020 according to the [Humanitarian Country Team](#).

In January, 35,000 persons have been newly displaced, including 6,000 persons which have fled due to destroyed harvest by desert locusts in Bay region.

Food insecurity is expected to deteriorate due to the desert locusts. In the worst case scenario, 3.2 million persons will face food insecurity from March to June 2020, reported FAO.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

A total of **2.8 million** persons of concern

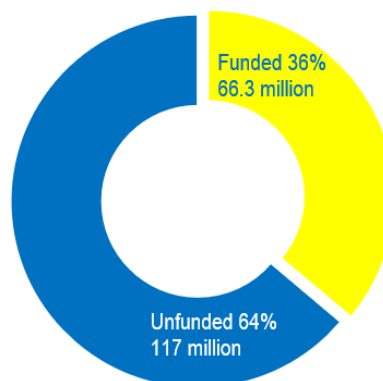


* Estimated internally displaced persons as of 31 July 2018 (Source: Information Management Working Group)

FUNDING (AS AT 31 JANUARY)

USD 183.3 million

requested for the Somalia situation



2019 FIGURES AT GLANCE

- 770,000** newly displaced persons
- 4,049** Somali refugees returned
- 1,428** newly registered asylum-seekers
- 1,142** newly registered refugees
- 4,278** persons benefited from permanent shelters
- 3,200** persons benefited from livelihood projects
- 29** public infrastructures improved



Constructed borehole in Dhobley.

CLIMATE REFUGEES

The UN Human Rights Committee in the case [Teitiota v New Zealand](#) determined that people who flee the effects of climate change and natural disasters should not be returned to their country of origin if essential human rights would be at risk on return. Last year, 770,000 persons were [displaced internally](#) as a result of conflict and climate change (floods and droughts) in Somalia, while around one million Somalis remained in exile. The decision reiterates that persons fleeing adverse effects of climate change and disasters may have valid claims for refugee status under the [Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees](#) and/or regional refugee frameworks.

A NEW HOME RESTORED ABSHIRA'S DREAMS

Abshira Jama (46) was one amongst thousands who lost their livelihood as a result of the severe and prolonged drought in 2017 that displaced almost one million persons. She had no other solution than to leave everything behind and search for a place where her ten children could be safe. After four weeks of searching for shelter, Abshira decided to join one of the settlements in Gaalkacyo. She used old clothes, cartons and branches to make a makeshift dwelling for herself and her children.

“Can you imagine how it is to lose everything within a few days?” Abshira asked to describe her situation after she was forced to leave her home.



In 2019, the destiny of 4,278 Somalis has changed. Abshira was one of the displaced Somalis who benefited from a permanent shelter, the beginning of the restoration of her ability to once again dream.

“Today I feel safe, and sleep soundly with my daughters like any other member of the host community in the town,” she said after a few nights in her new home.

The right to adequate housing goes beyond the bricks and mortars of a shelter. It also requires access to safe drinking water and sanitation. Accordingly, UNHCR is advocating for the expansion of housing settlements in Gaalkacyo. In addition to shelters, the settlements will have a borehole with a water distribution system, solar street lighting, community centre, school, mobile clinic and police post.

She started a small-business next to her house and sent her daughters back to school. Abshira had hopes of reuniting with her children, as she had sent seven children to relatives in rural areas as they faced sexual and gender-based violence threats in the IDP settlement.

“I believe I am lucky and all thanks to Allah and UNHCR,” she said.

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

- In 2020, UNHCR continued providing support to Somalia aimed at the development of key legal and policy frameworks, including the Refugee Act and Migrant, Returnee and Re-Admission Policy.
- As of 31 January, Somalia hosted 17,883 refugees and 17,789 asylum-seekers. Refugees and asylum-seekers in Somalia are provided with protection and assistance by the government and UNHCR through access to housing, registration and documentation, education, health care, livelihood, cash-based interventions, provision of core relief items, legal support, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention and response, peaceful coexistence and community-based protection.

REGISTRATION

- UNHCR continued with Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS) registration of all refugees and asylum-seekers living in Somalia. Registration protects individuals by permitting them to verify their identity, and allows for targeted assistance for the forcibly displaced in the country.
- 107 persons were newly registered in January: 57 from Yemen and 50 from Ethiopia, including 46 newly arrived and 61 newly born. As of 31 January, Somalia hosted 35,685 asylum-seekers and refugees.



UNHCR colleagues informing refugees about BIMS registration.



A refugee undergoing BIMS registration.

CASH ASSISTANCE

- In January, 6,815 persons received monthly cash assistance to meet their basic needs such as housing and food. In Gaalkacyo, the Office started re-assessing the vulnerability of refugees and asylum-seekers based on which the Office will determine whether refugees and asylum-seekers will be supported with cash assistance.

EDUCATION

- Widespread poverty and lack of public schools means many school-going children are not able to access private education, which is most often the only educational option. In 2020, UNHCR will continue providing access to education by financing school fees, school uniforms and scholastic materials and in some cases transportation. In January, UNHCR supported 4,673 school going children (2,473 in Hargeisa and 2,200 in Bossaso).

HEALTH

- The capacity of primary healthcare services is mostly inadequate coupled with insufficient healthcare facilities. The elderly and persons with chronic illnesses often cannot afford healthcare services. UNHCR continues providing access to primary healthcare services to all refugees and asylum-seekers. Secondary and tertiary healthcare services are limited due to lack of funding.

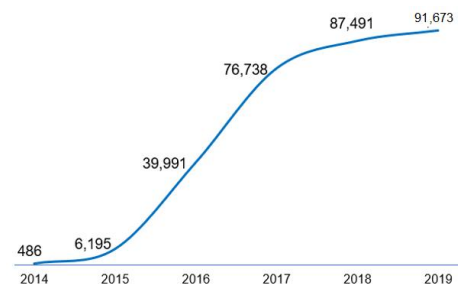
REFUGEE RETURNEES

- Since the beginning of the UNHCR-assisted repatriation programme (in 2014), 91,539 Somali refugees have voluntarily repatriated from 13 different countries of asylum. Each Somali refugee household who made an informed and voluntary decision to repatriate is provided with a return package aimed to restore their life in Somalia.
- A return package consists of a core relief items kit, an unconditional one-time reinstallation grant of US\$ 200 per person and an unconditional monthly subsistence allowance amounting to US\$ 200 per household for six months, an unconditional monthly grant for food rations for six months (provided by WFP), an education grant of up to US\$ 25 per school-going child per month for one school year, a conditional grant of up to US\$ 1,000 for shelter per household, and conditional enrolment in self-reliance and livelihood projects based on a set of targeting criteria and availability of resources.

RETURN FIGURES

- In January, no Somali refugees were repatriated from countries of asylum. Return convoys from Kenya remain suspended due to insecurity in southern and central regions of Somalia. Repatriation from Yemen has also been temporary suspended due to repair of a boat which is used to transport Somali refugee returnees from Yemen to Somalia.

CoA	BEFORE 2019	2019	2020	TOTAL
KENYA	82,840	2,134	-	84,974
YEMEN	3,405	1,682	-	5,087
OTHER	1,245	233	-	1,478
TOTAL	87,490	4,049	-	91,673



EDUCATION



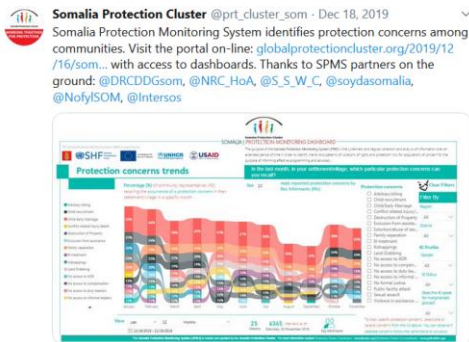
Around 380 students (250 in Luuq and 130 in Dollow), teachers, parents and host community participated at an awareness session on the rights of children and ways to respond to inappropriate behaviour. Teachers also informed students and parents about a Code of Conduct for Teachers to maintain professional standards when interacting with students.

LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES

- In January, UNHCR registered 200 returned refugees, internally displaced persons and the members of host community in an entrepreneurship training. The group will undergo a series of trainings and receive a small-grant in the amount of US\$ 500 upon graduation.

INTERNALLY DISPLACED SOMALIS

- On 22 January, the Humanitarian Country Team released the [2020 Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) for Somalia](#). The 2020 HRP targets 3 million persons out of a total of 5.2 million persons in need. The total number of persons in need has increased by 19 per cent (one million persons), from 4.2 million in 2019 to 5.2 million in 2020, while persons targeted for assistance has decreased by 12 per cent (400,000 persons), from 3.4 million persons in 2019 to 3 million in 2020.



The Protection Cluster launched online portal the [Somalia Protection Monitoring System](#) (SPMS). The purpose of the SPMS is the systematic and regular collection and analysis of information over an extended period of time in order to identify trends and patterns of violations of rights and protection risks for populations of concern for the purpose of informing effective programming and advocacy.



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NEW DISPLACEMENTS

- The field reports from UNHCR-led [Protection and Return Monitoring Network](#) (PRMN) indicated that in January 35,000 persons were newly displaced. Conflict or insecurity caused by Al Shabaab-forced recruitment and harassment of persons in Baydhaaba district of Bay region triggered 28,000 new internal displacements. Around 6,000 persons were displaced due to a lack of livelihood, particularly Bay region, the most affected region by invasion of Desert Locusts, which have reportedly destroyed the crops of 200 farmers. Other (1,000) displacements noted were due to access to humanitarian assistance, access to health and education especially in Togdheer region.

SHELTER AND NFI'S CLUSTER

The Shelter and NFI's cluster, led by UNHCR, is a coordination mechanism that supports people affected by conflicts and natural disasters. In January, the cluster reached 74,340 persons with non-food items (NFI) kits; 65,280 persons with emergency shelter kits and 1,200 persons benefited from shelter. This brings the total number of people assisted with Shelter and NFI by the Shelter Cluster partners to five per cent of 1.4 million targeted in 2020.

- Identified Needs and Remaining Gaps:** According to the 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2.2 million people are in need of shelter and NFI. Lack of prepositioned stocks in key locations will hamper timely response to persons in need. The cluster has been severely underfunded affecting humanitarian shelter response in a timely and effective manner. Lack of security of tenure especially for the displaced population living in IDP sites makes it difficult to provide durable shelter solution.



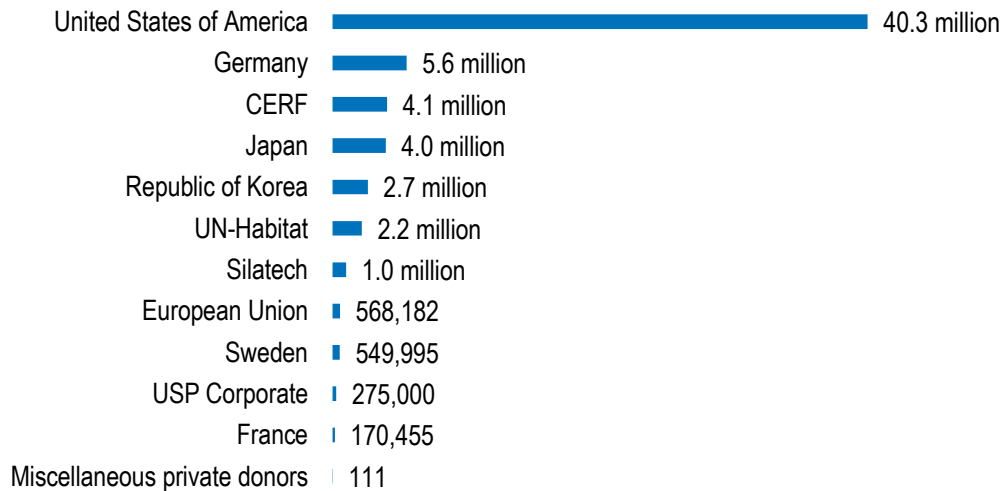
In Berbera, 122 internally displaced and 31 host community household will benefited from newly constructed Refugee House Units.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

UNHCR is extremely grateful for the crucial support provided by donors to the Somalia Operation or, more broadly, global UNHCR programmes.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE SOMALIA OPERATION | USD

Earmarked contributions for the Somalia Operation amount to some **US\$ 66.3 million**.



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special gratitude is extended to the following major donors for contributions that may potentially be used in the Somalia Operation given their earmarking to a related situation, theme, region, or sub-region:

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UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special gratitude is also extended to the following major donors of unearmarked contributions to UNHCR:

Sweden 99.8 million | Private donors Spain 83 million | United Kingdom 44.6 million | Norway 44.5 million | Netherlands 43.1 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 41.8 million | Germany 28.9 million | Private donors Japan 28.7 million | Japan 25.7 million | Denmark 24.4 million | Private donors Italy 20.1 million | Private donors USA 19.1 million | Private donors Sweden 17.8 million | Switzerland 15.1 million | France 14 million | Ireland 10.2 million | Private donors China 10 million | Italy 10 million

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CONTACT

Johann Siffointe, Representative, UNHCR Somalia

siffoint@unhcr.org, Cell: +252 613 642 767 (Somalia), Cell: +254 736 999 781 (Kenya)

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